

Message Text

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64

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W

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R 141455Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8679

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXHIBITS: BICENTENNIAL AND PHOTOGRAPH USA

REF: USIA 655, 75 USIA 26520, MOSCOW 67, MOSCOW 496

USIA FOR IEU, ICS/E

STATE FOR EUR/SOV

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

IN JAN 13 MEETING AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOLLOWING POINTS MADE:

1. PHOTOGRAPH USA:

A. OGANESYAN INFORMED EMBASSY THAT LENINGRAD CITY AUTHORITIES BELIEVE SUGGESTED JULY 1 OPENING EXHIBIT TOO CLOSE TO CLOSING OF TAH, THOUGH LENINGRAD HAS NOT YET DISAPPROVED EXHIBIT SHOWING AT SUGGESTED TIME. OGANESYAN SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OPENING IN KIEV, WITH LENINGRAD AS THIRD CITY. EMBASSY'S POINT STRONGLY MADE - THAT JULY OPENING IMPORTANT GIVE LENINGRAD PRESTIGIOUS BICENTENNIAL EVENT, OF IMPORTANCE TO EMBASSY AND CONSULATE GENERAL. CHAMBER PROMISED SUPPORT HIS VIEW IN FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH LENINGRAD AUTHORITIES.

B ON EMBASSY SUGGESTED SECOND CITY, KUYBYSHEV, OGANESYAN SAID IT HERETOFORE CLOSED TO FOREIGN EXHIBITS AND DELEGATIONS.

ACCORDINGLY CITY OFFICIALS DECLINED CONSIDER PROPOSAL ON FORMAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUND: THEY HAD NEVER HANDLED FOREIGN EXHIBITS, FEARED THEIR

SERVICES AND ESPECIALLY HOTELS WOULD BE INADEQUATE. CHAMBER UNAWARE WHAT POSSIBLE EXHIBIT AREAS AVAILABLE. EMBASSY'S ALTRNATE CITY, GORKIY, ALSO "CLOSED" CITY ACCORDING OGANESYAN AND EVEN CONTINGENCY SITE SURVEY IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME IN EITHER CITY.

C. ON HEARING THAT SOVIET EXHIBIT, SCIENTIFIC SIBERIA, VISITING TWO "CLOSED" CITIES IN USA, SALT LAKE CITY AND FORT WORTH, OGANESYAN SAID HE WOULD, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, REOPEN ISSUE FORCEFULLY ON GROUNDS RECIPROCITY. HE UNOFFICIALLY EXPRESSED OPINION KUYBYSHEV GOOD CHOICE FROM US VIEWPOINT. HIS DEPUTY NOTED THAT ONLY BECAUSE OF EARLIER US EXHIBITS WERE UFA AND IRKUTSK OPENED FOR INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITS, TO THE CHAMBER'S ADVANTAGE.

D. OGANESYAN SAID CHAMBER STILL WILLING TO NEGOTIATE ONE CONTRACT FOR SIX CITY SHOWINGS PHOTOGRAPH, PROVIDED MFA GIVES SUFFICIENT LEGAL BASIS DOING SO. ON HEARING OF JAN. 12 CONVERSATION OF MFA (REFTEL 498), OGANESYAN SAID HE AGREED THAT EMBASSY'S POSITION IS MOST PRACTICAL ONE. TWO SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE WASTEFUL; BUT HE AWAITS THE MFA'S GREEN LIGHT.

E. IN VIEW ABOVE, WOULD SUGGEST SUIB AND CONTRACT NEGOTIATORS POSTPONE TRIP TO USSR TILL CITIES DEFINITELY IDENTIFIED.

2. BICENTENNIAL EXHIBIT:

A. OGANESYAN INFORMED THAT SOKOLNIKI PAVILIONS 4 AND 5 DESCRIBED AS POSSIBLE IN DECEMBER 23 MEETING UNAVAILABLE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER DUE COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT BOOKINGS.

B. VDNKH AUTHORITIES HAVE INFORMED CHAMBER THAT ALL SUITABLE SPACE COMMITTED FROM OCTOBER TILL END OF YEAR.

C. ONLY CERTAIN PRESENT AVAILABILITY IS NEW SOKOLNIKI PAVILION 4-A, BEGINNING 10 NOVEMBER THROUGH END OF YEAR, WITH EXTENSION DATE POSSIBLE.

D. ALSO POSSIBLE SAME PAVILION AVAILABLE EARLIER, IF AN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT PLANNED FOR BOTH PAVILIONS 4 AND 4-A CAN BE FIT INTO FORMER. IN THAT CASE, OPENING O/A NOV 1 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEASIBLE. HAVE STRESSED TO CHAMBER AND MFA DESIRE OBTAIN PAVILION 4-A FOR EARLIER PERIOD. WILL INFORM SOONEST.

E. EMBOFFS VISITED 4-A IN COMPANY OGANESYAN AND STAFF. IT CLEARLY BEST OF ANY SEEN THUS FAR. NEWLY COMPLETED, OF W. GERMAN DESIGN, 56 BY 66 METERS, NO SUPPORTING COLUMNS, 6 M. TO LOWEST BEAM, ALL ALUMINUM SIDING, NO WINDOWS, EXCELLENT LIGHT CONTROL. HEATING SEEMED MORE THAN ADEQUATE ON EXTREMELY COLD DAY. FLOOR

PLANS IN HAND.

F. ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEM NOVAK SURVEY JAN 23, PER USIA 1009.

G. IN LIGHT NO SITE YET COMMITTED, EMBASSY UNABLE DISCUSS
RENTAL TERMS OUTLINED REFTEL A AND FEELS THAT NEGOTIATION SHOULD
BE HANDLED BY AGENCY NEGOTIATING TEAM NOT AS SEPARATE ITEM.
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